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Dated: July 25, 2003

Signature:

(Marco Jimenez)

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U.S. PATENT & TRADEMARK OFFICE  
TC 1700

Docket No.: 199372003500  
Client reference: 133054US  
(PATENT)

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## IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

In the Patent Application of:  
Takayuki TOSHIMA et al.

Application No.: 09/971,136 ✓

Group Art Unit: 1746

Filed: October 3, 2001 ✓

Examiner: Zeinab E. El-Arini

For: SUBSTRATE PROCESSING METHOD AND  
SUBSTRATE PROCESSING APPARATUS

### RESPONSE TO RESTRICTION REQUIREMENT

Commissioner for Patents  
PO Box 1450  
Alexandria, VA 22313-1450

Dear Sir:

In response to the restriction requirement set forth in the Office Action mailed June 25, 2003, Applicants hereby elect, without traverse, Claims 10 through 17 for continued examination.

Applicants reserve the right to file either one or more divisional applications drawn to the nonelected claims, or an amendment to this application which adds new claims, including a generic claim.

Dated: July 25, 2003

Respectfully submitted,

By \_\_\_\_\_  
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